



On maintaining good ties of kinship

First Sermon

All praise is due to Allah, the Most High, the Most Great. He enjoined upon us to honour ties of kinship. I bear witness that there is no deity save Allah, having no associates. I also bear witness that our Master and Prophet Muhammad is the Servant of Allah and His Messenger. May the peace and blessings of Allah be upon him, his family and companions, and all those who follow them in righteousness till the Day of Judgment.

As to what follows,

I urge you and myself, **O Servants of Allah**, to be aware that you are asked to obey Him the Most Exalted in line with His orders: **“O mankind, fear your Lord, who created you from one soul and created from it its mate and dispersed from both of them many men and women. And fear Allah, through whom you ask one another, and the wombs. Indeed Allah is ever, over you, an Observer.”** (An-Nisaa: ١).

O Worshipers,

Allah the Most Exalted has attributed a great status to doing good for one’s relatives. The Almighty has illustrated this in many places in the holy Quran. For instance, in this Aya, the Almighty says, **“worship Allah and associate nothing with Him, and to parents do good, and to relatives.”** (An-Nisaa: ٣٦). In another place in the holy Book, the Most Exalted says, **“indeed, Allah orders justice and good conduct and giving to relatives.”** (An-Nahl: ٩٠). That is to say: to keep good ties with relatives and treat them in kindness.

So, it is the commandment of Allah the Almighty to His servants to observe ties of kinship; something which the Messenger of Allah pbuh has also accentuated as he said, “Allah enjoins upon you to be dutiful to your mothers. Then He enjoins upon you to be dutiful to your fathers. Then He enjoins upon you to be dutiful to your next closest relative and then to your next closest relative.” This means that Allah commands you to take care of your parents and your relatives, both



maternal and paternal lineage, including uncles, aunts and their offspring.

In this sense, amongst the greatest acts that help in maintaining good relationship with relatives and being kind to them is to keep in touch with them, doing good to them, calling them, asking about their conditions and visiting them regularly. The prophet pbuh has really set an example to follow in this matter as he honoured his ties of kinship and visited his uncles. He pbuh said in this regard, “The uncle of a man is the same as his father.” This means, the same status as one’s father. The Prophet pbuh used to also visit his paternal aunt Safiya Bint Abdul Muttalib, may Allah be pleased with her, as well as his two maternal aunts, and he would say, “The is of the same status as the mother.”

You are urged, therefore, to visit your relatives, keep good bonds with them, celebrate their joys and comfort them in their sorrows. Indeed, those are but a few of their rights on us. Al Hasan Al Basri, said in this regard, “It is the right of relatives to comfort them at times of ease and console them at times of difficulty.”

O Servants of Allah,

Amongst the acts of goodness that Allah the Almighty has urged Muslims to do is to spend on their relatives who are less fortunate. Truly, doing so is a kind act that is beneficial and a righteous deed that is conducive to raise one’s status in degrees. The Most Exalted has illustrated this in the following Aya, “**so give the relative his right, as well as the needy and the traveller. That is best for those who desire the countenance of Allah, and it is they who will be the successful.**” (Ar-Room: ٣٨). So, in this Aya, the reward of spending on relatives will be brought to the doer of good in this world in addition to the reward that they will receive later in their next life. Thus, it is such a great success for those who spend on their relatives to meet their needs and ease their difficulties.

Indeed, one’s relatives are the most entitled for one’s acts of kindness. Allah the Almighty says, “**they ask you, [O Muhammad], what they should spend. Say, ‘Whatever you spend of good is [to be] for parents and relatives and orphans and the needy and the**



traveller. And whatever you do of good - indeed, Allah is Knowing of it.” (Al-Baqara: ٢١٥). In this noble Aya, Allah the Most Beneficent advises His servants about those who are most entitled for spending on them, urging them to do good for parents and relatives. In like manner, the Messenger of Allah pbuh has put emphasis on giving to one’s relatives as he said, “Start (in spending) with yourself and if there is anything left, give it to our family. If there is anything left after your family (has been taken care of), then give it to your relatives.”

On the same matter, it was narrated that when Abu Talha al Ansari, may Allah be pleased with him, said to the Messenger of Allah pbuh, “Bairuhaa garden is the most beloved of all my property to me. So I want to give it in charity in Allah’s cause. I expect its reward from Allah. O Allah’s Messenger pbuh! Spend it where Allah makes you think it feasible.” On that Allah’s Apostle said, “Well done! It is a useful property. I have heard what you have said (O Abu Talha), and I think it would be proper if you gave it to your Kith and kin.” Abu Talha said, “I will do so, O Allah’s Apostle.” Then Abu Talha distributed that garden amongst his relatives and his cousins.

Another good example on the importance of looking after relatives and meeting their needs is the one of Umar Ibn Al Khattab, may Allah be pleased with him, when he wished to give a piece of land in charity and went to the Prophet pbuh asking for his advice about it. So, the Prophet pbuh said, “If you wish you can keep it as an endowment to be used for charitable purposes, i.e. keep the ownership of the land and give its yield in charity.” So, Umar gave the land as an endowment and its yield would be used for the poor and the kinsmen. In this story, there is an indication to that the closest relatives are most entitled for good deeds and charity, followed by the next closest.

More to the point, relatives’ rights are not only due to them while they are alive, but after their demise too. Upon the death of a relative it is the duty of the Muslim to take care of their interests and look for their offspring. On this record, it was narrated that when Jaafar Ibn Abu Talib, may Allah be pleased with him, who was a cousin of the



Messenger of Allah pbuh, was martyred, the Prophet pbuh went to his family and said, “Call my nephews to me.” (When they came) he pbuh comforted them and prayed for them, saying, “O Allah, grant Jaafar a succession in his descendants.” Then, Jaffar’s wife complained to the Prophet pbuh about her children being orphans. Thereupon, he pbuh said, “Poverty! Are you worried about them when I am their ally in this world and in the Hereafter?”

So, the Messenger of Allah pbuh committed himself to taking care of Jaafar’s children. In fact, this is an embodiment of social consolidation which is a righteous act that Allah the Most Merciful reward in multiples. To this, it was narrated that Zainab, the wife of Abdullah Ibn Masood, may Allah be pleased with both of them, reported that she said to the Prophet pbuh, “O Messenger of Allah! Will it be accepted as charity if I spend on my poor husband and the orphans who are under my protection?” The Prophet pbuh said, “You will receive double rewards: one for helping relatives, and the other for spending in charity.”

Furthermore, from the guidance of the Prophet pbuh with regards to one’s duties towards their relatives is to pray for them. To this, it was narrated that the Prophet pbuh paid a visit to his aunt Umm Sulaim... Then he stood somewhere in her house and offered an optional prayer and then he invoked good on Um-Sulaim and her family.

Bearing this in mind, we seek Allah’s favour to make us amongst those who observe good ties with their kith and kin.

May Allah guide us all to obey Him and obey His Messenger Muhammad pbuh and obey those He have commanded us to obey in line with His orders: **“O you who have believed, obey Allah and obey the Messenger and those in authority among you.”** (An-Nisaa: ٥٩).

May Allah direct us all to the blessings of the Glorious Quran and the Sunna of His Messenger pbuh.

I say this and ask Allah for forgiveness for me and you, so invoke Him for forgiveness, for He is the Most Forgiving, the Most Merciful.



Second Sermon

All praise is due to Allah, the Lord of the Worlds. I bear witness that there is no deity save Allah, having no associates. I also bear witness that our Master Muhammad is the Servant of Allah and His Messenger. May the peace and blessings of Allah be upon our Master Muhammad, his pure family, companions, and all those who follow them in righteousness till the Day of Judgment.

I urge you, **O Servants of Allah**, and myself to be aware that you are asked to obey Him, the Most High and Exalted.

O Worshipers,

Please know that maintaining good ties with one's relatives and treating them in kindness and mercy are of the causes of attaining happiness in this world as the immediate reward as well as success on the Day of Judgment by being admitted to Paradise. An illustration of this can be seen in the following Hadith in which the Messenger of Allah pbuh said, "The inhabitants of Janna (Paradise) are (of) three (qualities), and of them he mentioned: a person who is merciful and kind hearted towards his relatives and to every pious Muslim."

You are urged, therefore, to strengthen bonds with your kin and kith, be kind to them and always keep the bridge of interaction extended to them. The reason is that by doing so you will achieve cohesion and harmony amongst yourselves, and thus help strengthening the unity and cohesion in the community. Ultimately, you will nurture consolidation and love in the minds and hearts of the generations.

That is said, please bear in mind that you are instructed to invoke peace and blessings on the Prophet pbuh. Allah, the Most Sublime, says, "**indeed, Allah confers blessing upon the Prophet, and His angels [ask Him to do so]. O you who have believed, ask [Allah to confer] blessing upon him and ask [Allah to grant him] peace.**" (Al-Ahzab: ٥٦).

On the same matter, the Prophet pbuh said, "For everyone who invokes a blessing on me will receive ten blessings from Allah."



O Allah, please confer Your blessings and grant peace upon our Prophet Muhammad pbuh, his family and all of the companions.

May Allah be pleased with the Rightly Guided Caliphs: Abu Bakr, Umar, Uthman and Ali, and all of the noble Companions.

May Allah grant success to the UAE President HH Sheikh Khalifa bin Zayed Al Nahyan and guide him to all that is good. O Allah, we also seek Your favour to grant him continued health and care. May Allah also ensure success to his Vice-President, trustworthy Crown Prince and his brothers, Their Highnesses the Rulers of the Emirates.

O Allah, we supplicate to You to grant us good health and provisions. O Lord, please make us rich in knowledge, adorn us with patience, and honour us with righteousness. O Allah, we seek Your grace to beautify us with good health and impart happiness to our homes. Indeed, You are over all things Competent and to the supplications You are ever responding.

O Allah, please forgive all of the Muslims, men and women, living and dead. We pray to Allah to show mercy on late Sheikh Zayed, Sheikh Maktoum and the late UAE Sheikhs. O Lord, grant them abundant mercy and bless them with Your kindness and satisfaction.

O Lord, forgive and show mercy on our parents, relatives and whoever has done a favour to us.

Our Lord, please continue blessing the UAE with stability and welfare and increase it in bounties, knowledge, civilisation, happiness, beauty and tolerance. O Allah, please continue blessing it with happiness and security.

O Allah, we implore You at this instance not to let a sin un-forgiven, a distress unrelieved, a debt unpaid, an illness unhealed, a dead without mercy or a need unsatisfied.

May Allah have mercy on the honourable martyrs of our nation and gather them with the ones upon whom Allah has bestowed favour of the prophets. May Allah make the dwelling of the martyrs, their families, parents and relatives with the righteous. Indeed, You are the Most Generous of those who are generous.

O Allah, please grant the best reward for the families of the martyrs and offer them patience and solace. May Allah grant victory to the



soldiers of the Arab Coalition who gathered to restore the rights to their owners. O Lord, please be by their side and guide the Yemeni people to everything that is good. O Allah, make them rally for the word of truth and legitimacy, and bless them with welfare and stability, O the Most Generous.

O Lord, we beseech You to bless all of the Muslim countries and the whole world with stability and peace.

Our Lord, give us in this world that which is good and in the Hereafter that which is good, and save us from the torment of the Fire. O Allah, admit us to Your Paradise with the righteous. Indeed, You are Exalted in Might and Forgiving.

O Allah, we seek Your favour to send us wealthy rain and make us not amongst those who are despondent. O Allah, relieve us! O Allah, relieve us! O Allah, give us from the blessings of the sky and grow for us from the blessings of the earth.

Remember Allah and He will remember you. Be grateful of His benevolence and He will increase His blessings to you.

Please stand up for prayer.